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WEDNESDAY
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UM hospital draws rebuke

Patient rights, rules were violated in Jan. 'dumping' case, federal regulators say

By Andrea K. McDaniels
The Baltimore Sun

Federal regulators have cited the University of Maryland Medical Center Midtown for violating patient rights and several patient safety and hospital management regulations related to a January incident in which a woman was discharged from its emergency room in just a hospital gown.

The woman, identified only as Rebecca, was found outside the hospital in frigid temperatures by a local psychotherapist who ran into her after leaving work. He called an ambulance, and she was taken back to the emergency room and eventually put into a cab to a homeless shelter.

An investigation of the incident by the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services found numerous "deficiencies" related to the incident, which began when Rebecca arrived at the hospital for treatment for a head wound after falling off a motorbike.

She was treated, but the report found she resisted being discharged and nurses asked security to intervene. She was removed from the hospital in what many consider an act of "patient dumping."

Among the deficiencies noted in a pair of federal reports, the hospital:

■ Violated a federal law requiring that a hospital must protect and promote each patient's rights. "Specifically, the hospital enacted barriers to patients receiving care in the Emergency Department, failed to discharge a patient in a safe manner from the Emergency Department, and failed to protect one patient from harassment and potential harm."

■ Violated a patient's right to receive care in a safe setting. "Security personnel indicated that they would turn patients

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Baltimore's schools told to find 180th day to open

State school board denies request to waive one day

By Liz Bowie
The Baltimore Sun

Baltimore City school officials must scramble to decide which remaining vacation day to take away from students and teachers this year, or risk violating Gov. Larry Hogan's mandate defining the beginning and end of the school year.

As snow and sleet fell outside their meeting room window, the Maryland State School Board voted Tuesday against allowing the city to have one fewer school day than the 180 required by law.

Some board members chastised the city for not planning ahead and building fewer vacation days into its calendar. Across the state, school systems have needed to give up some vacation days during the school year to comply with the Hogan rule saying school must start after Labor Day and end by June 15.

While Baltimore hasn't seen any major snowstorms this winter, schools have closed for a nor'easter, frigid cold, ice and several inches of snow. That has forced most area school systems to add days back to ensure they meet the 180-day requirement.

No school system has received a waiver from the 180-day requirement so far this year, but Wicomico County also requested one, said Bill Reinhard, a

See **SCHOOLS,** *page 13*

The injured
Two reported: A 16-year-old girl and a 14-year-old boy

The suspect
Austin Rollins, 17, fired a Glock 9 mm and is dead

The officer
Resource officer Blaine Gaskill exchanged fire

JOSHUA MCKERROW/BALTIMORE SUN MEDIA GROUP PHOTOS

Police and emergency workers are at the scene of the shooting Tuesday morning at Great Mills High School in St. Mary's County.

2 hurt, 1 dead in school shooting

Deputy is praised for acting quickly in firing at gunman

By Jessica Anderson and Pamela Wood
The Baltimore Sun

As school systems across the country debate arming staff, state and local officials praised the actions of the school resource officer who fired at a gunman at Great Mills High School.

Blaine Gaskill

"He responded exactly as we train our personnel to respond," said St. Mary's County Sheriff Tim Cameron of school resource officer Deputy 1st Class Blaine Gaskill. Police said Austin Rollins, 17, shot at two other students who were injured. Gaskill fired at Rollins, who almost simultaneously fired back with a handgun, Cameron said.

See **DEPUTY,** *page 6*

St. Mary's County Sheriff Tim Cameron speaks at a news conference about the shooting at Great Mills High School. The suspected shooter was killed.

By Pamela Wood, Talia Richman, Colin Campbell and Scott Dance
The Baltimore Sun

GREAT MILLS — Last Wednesday, students from Great Mills High School in Southern Maryland joined a nationwide "school walkout" to call for an end to gun violence and more school safety measures.

On Tuesday morning, those same students were evacuated from their own school after gunfire rang out.

The suspected gunman, 17-year-old student Austin Wyatt Rollins, was pronounced dead hours later at a local hospital. Two teenage students were being treated for their injuries — one, Jaelynn Willey, was in critical condition — and a school resource officer who fired at the gunman was unharmed.

"This is what we train for. This is what we prepare for and this is what we pray we never have to do," said St. Mary's County Sheriff Tim Cameron. "And on this day we realized our worst nightmare that our greatest asset — our children — were attacked in a bastion of safety and security, one of our schools."

See **SHOOTING,** *page 6*

SUMMARY OF THE NEWS

MARYLAND

ON THE BALLOT: Circuit Court Judge Lawrence Fletcher-Hill threw out an election lawsuit Tuesday against Thiru Vignarajah, clearing the way for the former deputy attorney general for Maryland to run for city state's attorney. **NEWS PG 2**

NATION & WORLD

TRUMP AND PUTIN: President Donald Trump called Russian President Vladimir Putin on Tuesday to congratulate him on his re-election to a fourth term, and they discussed arranging a meeting. **NEWS PG 9**

BOMB IN TEXAS: Authorities investigating bombings in Austin, Texas, looked at a FedEx shipping center near San Antonio, where a package exploded on a conveyor belt, and an additional explosion was reported in Austin Tuesday night. **NEWS PG 4**

TODAY'S WEATHER

SNOW

36 HIGH | **28** LOW

Partly sunny Thursday **SPORTS PG 12**

KEN KOONS/BALTIMORE SUN MEDIA GROUP

Springtime in Westminster

Larry Stephan clears snow on West Main Street in Westminster on the first day of spring. Tuesday's freezing rain, snow and sleet are expected to give way to heavier snow today.

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